

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 17 and 18 are pending in the application with Claims 1, 2 and 18 amended by the present amendment, and Claims 9-16, 19 and 20 withdrawn from consideration.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-8, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Fox et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,781, hereinafter Fox).

Claims 1, 2 and 18 are amended to more clearly describe distinctly claimed Applicants' invention. Support for these amendments is found in Applicants' originally filed specification.¹ No new matter is added.

Briefly recapitulating, Claim 1 is directed to an information saving apparatus for storing shared information, where the information is shared via a network. The information saving apparatus includes, *inter alia*, a notification administration unit configured to manage notifications exchanged between information sharing users. One of the information sharing users is a transmitting shared information user and another of the information sharing users is a receiving shared information user. The notification administration unit includes a notification request receiving module, a member identification module, a notification control module, a notification queue administration module, a notification hysteresis record module, a notification transmission module, and a reception state administration module.

Fox discloses a server that authenticates notification requests for push services by verifying a certificate.² After verifying the certificate and performing security checks, the server processes the notification request. However, contrary to the Official Action, Fox does

¹ Specification, Figure 2.

² Fox, Abstract and Figure 4.

not disclose or suggest Applicants' claimed notification administration information or Applicants' claimed notification administration unit. Furthermore, Fox does not disclose or suggest Applicants' newly recited modules within the notification administration unit.

MPEP § 2131 notes that “[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). “When a claim covers several structures or compositions, either generically or as alternatives, the claim is deemed anticipated if any of the structures or compositions within the scope of the claim is known in the prior art.” *Brown v. 3M*, 265 F.3d 1349, 1351, 60 USPQ2d 1375, 1376 (Fed. Cir. 2001) (claim to a system for setting a computer clock to an offset time to address the Year 2000 (Y2K) problem, applicable to records with year date data in “at least one of two-digit, three-digit, or four-digit” representations, was held anticipated by a system that offsets year dates in only two-digit formats). See also MPEP § 2131.02. “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.” *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Because Fox does not disclose or suggest all the features recited in Claim 1, Fox does not anticipate the invention recited in Claims 1, and all claims depending therefrom. Applicants submit that the invention recited in Claims 2 and 18, and all claims depending therefrom, also patentably define over Fox for substantially the same reasons as presented for Claim 1.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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